

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of the Interior		2018	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council		1529	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	12/04/2017	12/04/2019	
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date	
No			
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)			
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
16 U.S.C. 3115 (1988)	12/02/1980	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board			
16a. Total Number of Reports	1		
16b. Report Date	Report Title		
03/27/2018	FY 2017 Annual Report		

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
The Council met to review Federal wildlife proposals for the 2019-2021 wildlife regulatory cycle, hear updates on the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, identify issues for the FY 2017 Annual Report, and to hear from tribal, Federal and State officials on current issues and the status of regional fish and wildlife populations.	10/24/2017	10/25/2017
The Council met to hear the call for proposals to change fishing and shellfish regulations for Federal public lands in the Seward Peninsula Region of Alaska. The Council was also updated on the Fisheries Resource Monitoring and Partners programs, as well as the Non-Rural Determination Call for Proposals. The Council revisited WP46/47 regarding caribou in Unit 23 and finalized its Annual Report to the Board. The Council received reports on fish and wildlife populations from State and Federal managers, as well as other information relative to subsistence in the region.	03/05/2018	03/06/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00

18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$102,580.00	\$105,657.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$10,777.00	\$11,101.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$10,110.00	\$10,414.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$15,520.00	\$15,986.00
18d. Total	\$138,987.00	\$143,158.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	1.00	1.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Council met twice in FY 2018 to accomplish its goals. It conducted regular Council business; heard from members of the public, other agencies, and the Office of Subsistence Management on subsistence issues; reviewed and made recommendations on fish and wildlife regulations, customary and traditional use determinations and modifications to the rural determination process; considered submitting Federal fisheries regulatory proposals; and identified research priorities for the Fisheries Research Monitoring Program 2018 call for proposals.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Members broadly represent geographic, cultural, user, and gender diversity present within the region. This is ensured through a rigorous outreach recruitment effort and a thorough evaluation and recommendation process. Applicants are evaluated according to the following criteria: they must be a resident of the region in which they applied; have extensive knowledge of the region's fish and wildlife resources; have extensive knowledge of the region's subsistence uses, customs, and traditions; have extensive knowledge of the region's sport, commercial, and other nonsubsistence uses; and have evident leadership and communication skills. The applicants, their references, and key contacts within the region are interviewed by panels of Federal agency staff. The panels meet to rate and rank the applicants according to standards set by the Board. This information is considered by the Interagency Staff Committee which makes its recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board. The Board then meets to review the applicants and make their recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture. The Board recommendations balance points of view represented on the Council with the Council's function, which is to advise the Board on matters pertaining to subsistence. The Board also considers other factors such as geographic representation within the region. The Secretaries must concur regarding appointments. The entire process requires approximately 9 months to complete.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Meetings occur at least twice each calendar year with additional meetings as needed to address particular fish and wildlife subsistence resource management issues. Members also represent the Council at community meetings in the region and gather information for the Council and the Board about important issues.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act established the Regional Advisory Councils as the public forum for the expression of views and information originating from the local communities of their region, and to provide recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board regarding management of fish and wildlife resources for subsistence uses on Federal public lands. The members of the Regional Advisory Council and the public participants provide the expertise of subsistence people to the process of forming regulations that govern their lives and to the management of Federal public lands they use for subsistence purposes. The Council is a vital link between the Federal Subsistence Board and the rural residents whose lives the Board's decisions affect.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Not applicable -- all meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

N/A

Designated Federal Officer

Karen Deatherage Council Coordinator

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ahmasuk, Brandon	12/03/2016	12/02/2019	Native Association	Representative Member
Eningowuk, Fred	12/03/2008	12/02/2020	Subsistence	Representative Member
Gray, Thomas	12/03/2010	12/02/2019	Commercial/Sport	Representative Member
Green, Jr., Louis	12/03/2010	12/02/2019	Subsistence	Representative Member
Katchatag, Deahl	12/11/2017	12/02/2020	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Katcheak, Theodore	12/03/2015	12/02/2018	Subsistence	Representative Member
Kirk, Ronald	12/03/2015	12/02/2018	Subsistence	Representative Member
Oyoumick, Leland	12/05/2016	12/02/2020	Retired - School District	Representative Member
Saccheus, Charles	12/03/2015	12/02/2018	Airline Agent	Representative Member
Seetot, Jr., Elmer	09/30/1994	12/02/2018	Subsistence	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

Since Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in 1980, Title VIII has provided for the continuation of subsistence uses of fish and wildlife

resources on Federal public lands by rural residents in Alaska. Title VIII required the creation of Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils to enable rural residents to have a meaningful role in Federal subsistence management. The Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture subsequently established the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Program is a multi-agency effort that includes the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the USDA Forest Service. These agencies manage the Federal public lands where subsistence activities take place, including waters running through or next to Federal public lands and with limited marine jurisdiction. The Secretaries delegated management authority for subsistence uses in Alaska to the Federal Subsistence Board, which is comprised of the regional directors of the five Federal public land managers in Alaska and a representative appointed by the Secretaries to serve as Chair. The Board is the decisionmaking body that oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The ten Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils provide recommendations and information to the Board, review policies and management plans, provide a public forum, develop proposals, evaluate current and anticipated subsistence needs, and perform other duties required by the Board. The Councils make recommendations to the Board regarding proposed changes to fish and wildlife regulations; management plans; policies, standards, and guidelines; determinations of rural status; subsistence use allocations; and other matters related to subsistence take of fish and wildlife. The Councils meet at least twice a year. Council chairs attend at least two Board meetings a year to represent the recommendations of their Councils and provide knowledge and advice to the Board.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The Council provides recommendations and information to the Board, reviews policies and management plans, provides a public forum, develops proposals, evaluates current and anticipated subsistence needs, appoints members to the National Park Service

subsistence resource commissions, and performs other duties required by the Board. The Council makes recommendations to the Board regarding proposed changes to fish and wildlife regulations; management plans; policies, standards, and guidelines; determinations of customary and traditional use of subsistence resources; fisheries research projects; determinations of rural status; subsistence use allocations; and other matters related to subsistence take of fish and wildlife. The Council meets at least twice a year; however, individual members may represent the Board at any time to serve on a committee or working group. Council chairs attend at least two Board meetings a year to present the recommendations of the Council and provide knowledge and advice to the Board.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

Regional Advisory Council members are all volunteers. They provide expert knowledge and advice to the Federal Subsistence Board which the Board cannot otherwise obtain. Without the Regional Advisory Council, the program would need to greatly increase staff and research funding. The researchers would then need to seek information from the very people, or similar people, who now make up the Council. The Board adopts a preponderance of the Council's recommendations which may lower resource management costs.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

456

Number of Recommendations Comments

In FY 2018 the Council made its recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board on eleven wildlife regulatory changes.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

99%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

ANILCA, Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board to consider and adopt the report and recommendations of the Regional Advisory Council concerning the taking of fish and wildlife within the region for subsistence on public lands. The Board may not choose to follow a recommendation only if it determines the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or it would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

1%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The Board may choose not to follow a recommendation only if it determines the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. Under this constraint, the Board generally adopts the Council's recommendations.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

ANILCA, Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board (acting for the Secretary) to inform the Regional Advisory Council when the Board chooses not to adopt a Council recommendation concerning the taking of wildlife on the public lands within the region for subsistence uses. The Board has expanded this to include reporting on those Council recommendations it does adopt and those it adopts with modification. These actions and their justifications are written in what is referred to as the 805(c) Letter. Board decisions regarding other matters, such as rural determinations, for which the Council makes recommendations, are reported to the Council in a less formal manner by the Subsistence Regional Coordinator or the Council chair.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

New subsistence wildlife and fisheries regulations frequently require the resource managing agencies to reprioritize their resources. Other recommendations accepted by the Federal Subsistence Board also require reallocation of agency funds. The Council makes recommendations regarding fisheries information needs within the region and for annual funding for fisheries research projects.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

The Council Coordinator provides information to members, agencies, and organizations upon request.